



August 2008

# Klamath County News

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## Klamath County USDA Service Center

Klamath County FSA  
2316 S. 6<sup>th</sup> St, Suite C  
Klamath Falls OR 97601  
541-883-6924 (phone)  
541-882-9044 (fax)

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/or/klamath.html>

## Hours

Monday - Friday  
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

## County Committee

Lester Strum, Chair  
Ron Stewart, Vice  
Garry Freitag, Member  
Gerda Hyde, Advisor

## County Executive

**Director** Jennifer Simon,  
ext 107

## Farm Loan Officer

Dorothy Scull ext. 104

## Farm Loan Manager

Jim Jutson

## Staff

Rowena Chase PT ext 108  
Dawn Rose, PT ext. 102  
Mary Hope, PT ext. 105

## Producer Meetings

Klamath County Farm Service Agency will be holding its fall producer meetings this month. We will discuss changes that will take effect for the 2009 year. We will also be discussing the buy-in waiver for Supplemental Disaster Assistance. This buy in will allow you to obtain coverage for 2008. New NAP fees for 2009 will also be discussed. Meetings will be held:

August 25, 2008 1 p.m. FSA Office

2316 South Sixth Street Suite C

August 26, 2008 1 pm and 6 pm FSA Office

August 27, 2008 6 p.m. Poe Valley Grange  
Hall

August 28, 2008 1 pm Merrill Civic Center

The Merrill Civic Center meeting will have representatives from Modoc and Siskiyou Counties.

Special accommodations will be made upon request for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment or hearing impairment. If accommodations are required, individuals should contact the county FSA office staff directly at least 7 days prior to the meetings. Please contact Jennifer Simon at 541-883-6924 x 107 to make arrangements.

## Power of Attorney

For those who find it difficult to visit the county office personally because of work schedules, distance, health, etc., we have a power of attorney form available that enables you to designate another person to conduct your business at the office. If you are interested, please contact our office or any Farm Service Agency office near you for more information.

## Buy-In Waiver for Supplemental Disaster Assistance

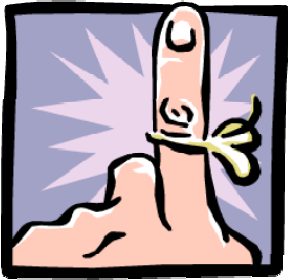
Producers can establish 2008 eligibility for the new disaster assistance programs by paying a fee as required by the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008 (the 2008 Act).

Ordinarily producers who wish to participate in the new disaster programs would need crop insurance or non-insured crop disaster assistance (NAP) coverage on all farms in all counties in which they have an interest. Since the 2008 Act was enacted after the application periods had closed for those programs, producers who did not have insurance coverage could not comply with this requirement in order to be eligible. However, the 2008 Act authorizes a waiver that allows producers to pay a fee, called a "buy-in" fee, to be eligible for the new disaster assistance programs.

The buy-in fee is due no later than Sept. 16, 2008, 90 days after the date of enactment, as required by the 2008 Act. Payment of the applicable fees will allow the producer to be eligible for financial assistance under the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE), Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP), and other disaster assistance programs. Those who miss this opportunity will **not** be eligible for 2008 disaster assistance. Producers are also reminded that the payment of the applicable buy-in fee does **not** provide the producer crop insurance or NAP coverage; it only affords eligibility for the 2008 disaster programs.



The buy-in fee for 2008 eligibility is \$100 per crop, but not more than \$300 per producer per county, or \$900 total per producer for all counties less any previously paid fees for CAT and/or NAP. Contact your local FSA County Office for details or to pay applicable fees.



## Program Reminders

### 2008 DCP Signup Continues

Producers have until September 30, 2008 to sign up for the 2008 Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment Program (DCP). Producers can fill out their 2008 DCP contract at any USDA Farm Service Agency County Office. Sign-up can also be completed online. FSA computes DCP payments using base acres and payment yields established for each farm. Eligible producers receive direct payments at rates established by statute regardless of market prices. For 2008, eligible producers may request to receive an advance payment of 22 percent of the direct payment for each commodity associated with the farm.

### NAP Coverage – Plan for 2009

The Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) was designed to reduce financial losses that occur when natural disasters cause a catastrophic loss of production or prevented planting of an eligible crop by providing coverage equivalent to catastrophic (CAT) insurance. Statute limits NAP to each commercial crop or agricultural commodity, except livestock, for which CAT is not available.

**NOTE: The application deadline date for 2009 NAP coverage has been extended to Dec. 1, 2008 for those crops whose insurance deadlines were prior to Dec. 1, 2008**

Producers who already have coverage on 2008 NAP crops may choose to continue coverage on the same crop or crops for 2009, if the applicable service fee is submitted by the application closing date. A new CCC-471, application for coverage is not required to be signed when applying for continuous coverage of the same crop or crops.

Producers who choose to add a new crop(s) or delete a crop(s) from previous year's coverage or changing crop shares must file a new CCC-471 with signatures and pay the applicable ser-

vice fee.

Producers with 2008 NAP coverage must remember to complete the following to qualify for benefits:

- Timely file acreage reports and keep track of harvested production using acceptable methods. For example, bale weights or other means of determining quantities of hay are required.
- File a "Notice of Loss" within 15 days of when a loss is apparent, due to drought, hail, etc.

### Payment Limitations

USDA payments and benefits are subject to producer eligibility and limitation provisions as defined by law. Documents and forms to determine eligibility and limitation are reviewed on an annual basis.

It is the producer's responsibility to report changes in the farming operation that may affect payment eligibility and payment limitation.

The following limitations apply to Direct and Counter-cyclical Program payments for the 2008 contract year. For all covered commodities: \$40,000 for direct payments and \$65,000 for counter-cyclical payments.

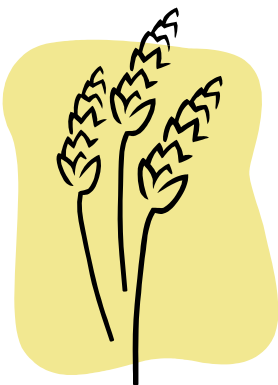
The Environmental Quality Incentive Program has a \$450,000 payment limitation.

The Conservation Reserve Program annual limit is \$50,000 per person.

Entities such as corporations, limited partnerships, trusts and estates are required to provide names, addresses, and ID numbers of their members. These entities should also identify every payment under more than one entity.

**Adjusted Gross Income** - Effective through 2008, an individual or entity shall **not** be eligible for certain program benefits during a crop, program or fiscal year if both of the following apply.

- The three-year average adjusted gross income for the individual or entity exceeds \$2.5 million; and
- Less than 75 percent of the average AGI is derived from farming, ranching or forestry operations.



## ***Farm Loan Programs***

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) offers loans for farmers and ranchers to purchase farmland and finance agricultural operations. FSA loan programs are designed to help producers who are temporarily unable to obtain private or commercial credit. In many cases, applicants are beginning farmers who have insufficient net worth to qualify for financing through a commercial lender. In other instances, borrowers might have suffered setbacks from natural disasters or might be persons with limited resources.

Farm ownership loans or farm operating loans may be obtained as direct loans for a maximum of up to \$300,000. Guaranteed loans can reach a maximum indebtedness of \$949,000. Emergency loans are always direct loans for farmers who may have suffered physical or production losses in disaster areas designated by a Presidential or Secretarial disaster declaration. Rural Youth Loans, Loans to Beginning Farmers and loans for socially disadvantaged applicants are also available through FSA.

If you are a farmer or rancher who has substantially participated in the farming operation for at least three years but no more than 10 years, you may qualify for beginning farmer targeted loan funds with the Farm Service Agency.

The program is designed to assist these farmers by providing direct and guaranteed loans when they are unable to obtain financing from commercial credit sources.

If you believe this program could be of benefit to you, please contact the county office for more information. FSA loan officials will be happy to arrange an appointment to meet with you and discuss your options.

## **Preventing Fraud**

The Farm Service Agency supports the Risk Management Agency in the prevention of fraud, waste and abuse of the Federal Crop Insurance Program. FSA has been, and will continue to, assist RMA and insurance providers by monitoring crop conditions throughout the growing season. FSA will continue to refer all suspected cases of fraud, waste and abuse directly to RMA. Producers can report suspected cases to the county office staff, the RMA office, or the Office of the Inspector General.

## **A Message from the New CREP Technician**

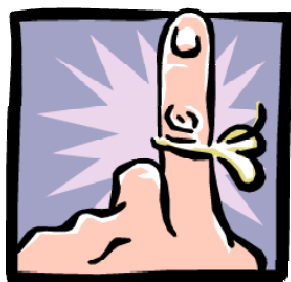
The farm service Agency is pleased to announce the addition of Joe Evans as the new CREP technician. A message from Joe follows.

I am Joe Evans the new Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) technician. My conservation journey began with me being born on my grandparents farm/ranch in Wheelock Texas. As a child I grew up around farm animals and warm season crops. I participated in 4H and FFA going through school. Prairie View A&M was the college that I attended and obtained a BS degree in Vocational Agriculture in 1975.

My professional conservation career began with a job in Washington County Oregon. I was a soil conservationist with the agency then known as the Soil Conservation Service which later became the Natural Resources Conservation Service. My responsibilities were providing technical assistance to land managers/producers to incorporate conservation practices into farm management system that addressed resource needs. I also worked in Marion County as a soil conservationist and later took the job as a District Conservationist (DC) in Clackamas County. As a DC my responsibility was to work closely with the local Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) to implement its Business Plan for the county with emphasis on identified resource concerns in the agriculture community. This was accomplished with USDA Farm Bill programs which provided additional technical and financial assistance to eligible and willing participating land managers/ producers. I later held the position of Basin Team Leader for the Lower Willamette Valley and Watershed Planner for Oregon NRCS prior to retirement from NRCS in December of 2007.

Being semi-retired, I still have the love for the out-of-doors atmosphere and the conservation ethic that is seen throughout the agriculture community. In the CREP technician position, I look forward to meeting the people and providing services to the community.

Joe E. Evans  
FSA CREP Technician



***Program  
Reminders***



Dates to Remember	
August 25 -1 PM	Producer Meeting, Klamath County Farm Service Agency Office
August 26, 1 P.M and 6 P.M.	Producer Meeting, Klamath County Farm Service Agency Office
August 27 6 P.M.	Producer Meeting Poe Valley Grange
August 28 1 PM	Producer Meeting Merrill Civic Center
Sept. 1	Office Closed for Labor Day Holiday
Sept. 16	2008 Disaster Program Eligibility “Buy-In” due
Sept. 30	2008 DCP Sign Up deadline
Dec. 1	2009 NAP Applications due
Continues	Continuous Conservation Reserve program

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